

P.O. Box 540  
Issaquah, WA 98027-0020

April 26, 2001

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U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane  
Room 1061  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

Re: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

Dear Sir/Madam:

I urge you, in the strongest possible terms, to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

Humans should never consume downed animals, which are too sick or injured to stand. Such animals may have bacterial contamination or even Mad Cow Disease. It is my understanding that downed animals are subjected to incredible abuse, including, but not limited to, being pushed with tractors or dragged with chains. I understand that these animals are at a slaughterhouse to be killed for food. However, such inhumane practices, even of animals slated to die, must cease.

Downed animals comprise a tiny percentage of animals slaughtered. Therefore, prohibiting their sale will cause no undue economic hardship.

It is further my understanding that industry experts have admitted that 90% of downed animals could be prevented with better care and handling. By stopping the sale of downed animals, you will be creating an incentive to the industry to prevent downed animal incidents from occurring.

By granting petition 98P-0151/CP1, you will be making humans safer while preventing animals from suffering needless cruelty.

Sincerely,



Gregory M. Bratten

98P-0151

C4728

Greg Bratten  
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